

dolutegravir-abacavir-lamivudine (Triumeq[®])



50-600-300 mg – purple, oval tablet

What is Triumeq[®]?

The Triumeq[®] tablet contains 3 different medicines: dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine. Triumeq[®] is used to lower the amount of HIV virus in your body and make your immune system stronger.

How do I take it?

- Take 1 tablet once daily, at the same time every day, with or without food
- Do NOT take antacids, calcium, iron, or magnesium supplements at the same time as Triumeq[®] (see section *Can I take Triumeq[®] with other medicines?*)

Store in a dry place at room temperature, and keep out of reach of children.

What if I forget to take it?

It is very important to take Triumeq[®] every day to make sure that it keeps working. If you miss a dose, there is a higher chance that the virus will change to a form that is harder to treat. This is called "resistance".

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take 2 doses at the same time. If you are not sure if you should take your dose, call the pharmacist.

If you stop taking HIV medicine, the amount of HIV virus in your blood will increase.

If you have Hepatitis B, stopping Triumeq[®] can make the Hepatitis B worsen.

Do not stop any of your HIV medicines without talking to your doctor.

What should I expect?

Triumeq[®] is usually well tolerated. Side effects may include:

- trouble sleeping
- nausea
- abnormal dreams
- stomach pain
- tiredness
- muscle pain
- headache

Rare, serious side effects may include:

- Allergic reaction: Signs include rash, blisters on skin or mouth, swelling of the face or throat, difficulty breathing, fever, flu-like symptoms
 - Before starting Triumeq[®], you must do a special blood test (HLA-B*5701 test) to check if you are at risk for severe allergy to abacavir (one of the medicines in Triumeq[®])
 - Tell your doctor if you have ever had a severe allergic reaction to abacavir
- Mood changes, feeling sad or depressed
- Liver problems: Signs include yellow skin or eyes, dark urine, pale stools, or pain on right side below ribs
- A condition called lactic acidosis: Signs include unusual muscle pain, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, or a fast heartbeat or fast breathing

Always tell your doctor or pharmacist if side effects are bothering you.

IMMEDIATELY contact your doctor if you have any serious side effects



BRITISH COLUMBIA
CENTRE for EXCELLENCE
in HIV/AIDS



It is important to have regular blood tests to watch for side effects and make sure your HIV medicine is working to control the virus.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or are thinking about becoming pregnant, or if you plan to breastfeed.

Can I take Triumeq[®] with other medicines?

Some medicines may interact with Triumeq[®]. Drug interactions can stop your treatment from working or may cause unwanted side effects.

Always tell your pharmacist and doctor if you are using any prescription or non-prescription medicines, vitamins, supplements, natural medicines or recreational drugs.

Medicines that may interact with Triumeq[®] include:

- Antacids (Tums[®], Maalox[®], Diovol[®]) and medicines with calcium, iron, or magnesium may be used but must be taken at least 6 hours before or 2 hours after you take Triumeq[®]
- Products containing calcium or iron (Tums[®], FeraMax[®]) can be taken together with Triumeq[®] only if taken WITH FOOD.
- Some medicines to treat seizures such as phenytoin (Dilantin[®])
- Some antibiotics such as rifampin
- Metformin
- St. John's Wort

This is not a complete list of medicines that interact with Triumeq[®].

Always check with your pharmacist before starting any new medicines to make sure they are safe for you.

What if I have questions?

If you have questions or problems with your medicine, call St. Paul's Hospital Ambulatory Pharmacy:

1-888-511-6222

(Monday to Friday daytime and urgent issues after hours)

To book an appointment to see a St. Paul's Hospital pharmacist, call reception:

604-806-8060

(Monday to Friday daytime)

This pamphlet is for general information purposes only. It does not provide individual medical or treatment advice and is not a substitute for medical or professional care.